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(63) Related by Continuation (CON) or Continuation-in-Part (CIP) to Earlier Application	US 60/124, 102 (CON) Filed on 12 March 1999 (12.03.99)	(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):	ALPHAGARY CORPORATION [US/US]; Pioneer Industrial Park, P.O. Box 808, Leominster, MA 01453 (US).
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(54) Title: BEVERAGE CONTAINER CLOSURE AND SEALANT LAYER MATERIAL

(57) Abstract

A melt-processible composition for molding closures and sealant layers for beverage containers has improved gas barrier properties. The composition comprises: a) a thermoplastic base polymeric material and b) a quantity of layered magnesium aluminum silicate clay having platelets with a diameter of approximately 1 micron. The magnesium aluminum silicate clay is preferably nanocomposite, montmorillonite clay. The preferred base material for beverage container closures is polypropylene, polyethylene and/or a propylene/ethylene copolymer. The preferred base material for beverage container sealant layers is an ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer, polyethylene, styrene ethylene butadiene styrene polymer, styrene butadiene styrene polymer, ethylene propylene diene monomer, and metallocene polymers.